Drive-in for
DOSA
8 AM - 11 AM & 5 PM - 10 PM
HOTEL
SIDDHARTA
NAZARABAD, MYSURU PH: 2522999

STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

Vol. 47 No. 65 Pages: 12 Rs. 3.00
Ph: 2496520 / 21 / 22 / 23
E-mail: voice@starofmysore.com
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MYSURU Monday 22nd April 2024
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BJP's Statewide protest over Neha's murder in Hubballi

Dharna at Gandhi Square seeking CBI investigation

CID to probe case; Special Court to expedite justice: CM Siddaramaiah

Mysuru, Apr. 22 (GA&KS)- Following a call by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) for a Statewide protest in response to the murder of Neha Hiremath, the daughter of a Congress Corporator, who was fatally stabbed at her college in Hubballi on Apr. 18, BJP workers staged demonstrations in Bengaluru, Mysuru, Dharwad, Hubballi and other districts this morning, demanding justice for Neha's family.

Meanwhile, amid mounting protests and public outcry especially during the Lok Sabha election time, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah announced this morning that a Criminal Investigation Department (CID) probe will be conducted into the murder case of Neha Hiremath by her classmate Fayaz Khondunaik.

Addressing reporters in Shivamogga, the Chief Minister also revealed plans to establish a Special Court to expedite justice for the deceased and her family.

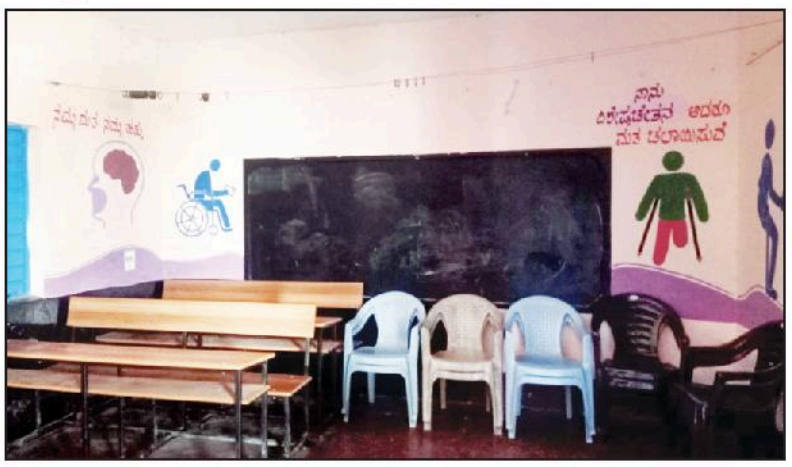
BJP State President B.Y. Vijayendra and others staging protest in city this morning.

In response to the BJP's demand for a CBI probe, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar remarked, "We don't mind, let them hand over. Let them do whatever they want. They are not eligible. Karnataka Government will deal with it in its own way. There is no question of it."

Meanwhile in Mysuru, over 150 BJP workers and leaders, led by State BJP President B.Y. Vijayendra, convened at Gandhi Square this morning to demand that the case be handed over to the CBI and to advocate for capital punishment for the accused.

(See DHARNA on page 7)

Theme-based booths to lure people to vote



Mysuru, Apr. 22 (RK&BCT)- With the first phase of the Lok Sabha polls on Apr. 19 seeing a low turnout predominantly because of the prevailing heat wave and lack of motivational factors, the Election Commission of India (ECI) is actively exploring methods to increase voter participation in the upcoming rounds.

The ECI is deploying various strategies to attract voters, such as establishing special polling booths, themed polling booths, and booths specifically catering to women. Additionally, it is intensifying efforts to enhance its existing Systematic Voter Education and Electoral Participation Programme (SVEEP) to encourage voter mobilisation.

Under the guidance of MCC Commissioner Dr. N.N. Madhu, the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) is preparing eight special booths within its limits for the voting day on Apr. 26.

The groundwork, including painting and designing based on various themes, has been completed and final touches are now being added to ensure an appealing booth on the day of voting.

(See BOOTHS on page 7)

To Our Readers

Turn to Page-6 for Abracadabra titled ***"In passing: Saeed Akhtar Mirza"***—Ed

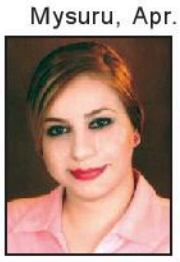
STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Monday 22nd April 2024

Ph.D awardees



Mysuru, Apr. 22- **Mozhdeh Khabazizoj** has been awarded Ph.D in Psychology by the University of Mysore (UoM) for her thesis 'Effect of Narrative Therapy and Drama Therapy on Self-Esteem and Self-Concept in Children' submitted under the guidance of Dr. C. Ramaswamy.

D. Chandan has been awarded Ph.D in Life Sciences by the JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research (JSS AHER), Mysuru for his thesis 'Development of Molecular Detection Methods and Plant Metabolites-based inhibition Studies against Leptospira Species' submitted under the guidance of Dr. S. Chandan.

Kunjam Srinivas has been awarded Ph.D in Telugu by the Karnataka State Open University (KSOU), Mysuru, for his thesis 'Koya's Language, Literature and Culture - A Study (Confined to West Godavari District)' submitted under the guidance of Prof. Ramanatham Naidu.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

Sometimes we come across people with dominant alter egos. They usually think that they are a cut above the rest. They are tolerated till the self-distinguished personality starts denigrating others to establish his or her one-upmanship.

This belittling trait in human behaviour which bedevils one's ego has been encapsulated in an endearing story in the Hitopadesha, written by Narayan Panditha.

Once a jackal wandered into a village late in the night. He stumbled into a huge vat of dye. He paddled around frantically but could not heave himself out of the tub. At the crack of dawn, the owner of the indigo dye arrived. The jackal sighted him. He pretended to be dead and stayed afloat. The man was disgusted at the sight of a dead animal. He grabbed the body and flung it afar.

The relieved jackal scooted away to the nearest pond to wash himself. When he saw his reflection in the water, he liked his attractive azure appearance. He sauntered into the jungle as all the animals gathered to see him. He drew himself up and told them that he had been consecrated as their king by the goddess of the forest. The animals took him at face value and respected him accordingly.

After a few days, the jackals noticed that their king joined them in their nightly howling sessions, albeit from afar. They realised that he was one of them. However, the canine looked upon them with disdain. Therefore, his clan invited the other creatures of the jungle to observe the nocturnal phenomenon. Soon the quaint king was exposed and met his death at the hands of his brethren.

The jackal could have been happy and grateful to have escaped alive from the vat of dye and led a normal life. However, he chose to cash in on his coloured skin and try his luck out as a king. He could have retained his royal status had he not disparaged and disrespected his fellow canines.

The jackal in the story was given many chances in life which he failed to utilise. Instead, he chose to channelise his energy in presenting himself as his alter ego. In the bargain, he lost his life because he refused to accept the truth about himself!

—S. Radha Prathi in Deccan Herald

NEWS SPARKLERS

2,013 cannons fired to break record

Perth: A school in Australia set off 2,013 confetti cannons at the same time to celebrate its 40th anniversary and break a Guinness World Record.

Students at St. Stephen's School in Western Australia sent confetti flying into the air Friday to break the record for the most people launching confetti cannons simultaneously.

The previous record stood at 1,116 people, a target the students nearly doubled with 2,013.

"A big thank you to everyone involved and well done to our students who were so amazing," the school said in a Facebook post.

Two vultures found 'too drunk to fly'

Connecticut: An animal rescue group in Connecticut said a pair of drunk vultures were treated with fluids and "a big breakfast" before being released.

A Place Called Hope said in a Facebook post that the "dynamic duo" had been "dumpster diving" and ended up eating something "that was fermented enough to cause severe intoxication."

The rescue said the vultures were initially thought to be seriously ill, but testing confirmed they were merely "too drunk to fly."

"They only needed fluids and to be tucked in overnight... and fed a BIG breakfast the next day," the post said.

The vultures were released back into the wild and successfully rejoined their colony.

"Remember, your cocktail fruit that ends up in a dumpster can end up intoxicating wildlife if the dumpster is not kept closed," the post said.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Common symptoms of UTIs include a strong, persistent urge to urinate, a burning sensation when urinating, passing frequent, small amounts of urine, cloudy or strong-smelling urine, and sometimes pelvic pain.

By Dr. Shaheen Akhtar - Consultant - Obstetrics & Gynaecology - Manipal Hospital, Mysore

manipalhospitals
LIFE'S ON

**** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature***

CAVA students selected for Natl. Youth Festival

Mysuru, Apr. 22- The following prize-winning students of CAVA (Chamarajendra Government College of Visual Arts), Mysuru, have been selected to take part in the 31st Inter-University National Youth Festival (2023-24) as representatives of University of Mysore.

In the Applied Arts section, Darshan B. Malkamkar has bagged the first place in poster-making and third place in cartoning section. In the painting section, Sanketh has bagged the third place in collage-making, while in the sculpture section, Yeshwanth has secured the first place in clay-modelling. Students Sanketh, Yeshwanth, Darshan and H.P. Srikara have bagged the first place in Group event installation contest.

Also, Abhilash, a BVA student, bagged two gold medals in Sculpture during the 104th Convocation of University of Mysore held recently. This apart, Bhuvan Jain secured a gold medal and a cash prize in painting, H.P. Shivaraj bagged cash prize in BVA Applied Arts and M.P. Meghana bagged the cash prize in BVA Photography and Photo-journalism.

Admission open

Admissions are open for BVA Visual Arts course in CAVA. Interested students can register under Integrated University and College Management system portal and then apply online.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM	KABINI DAM	HARANGI DAM
Maximum **124.80 feet**	Maximum **2,284.00 feet**	Maximum **2,859.00 feet**
Today's level **82.38 feet**	Today's level **2,261.43 feet**	Today's level **2,825.30 feet**
Last year's level **91.66 feet**	Last year's level **2,259.45 feet**	Last year's level **2,820.83 feet**
Yesterday's level **82.52 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,261.62 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,825.40 feet**
Today's Inflow **97 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **52 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **171 cusecs**
Today's Outflow **758 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **800 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **200 cusecs**

REALLY...?

- ***Bats are the only flying mammals.***
- ***Tomato is a fruit, not a vegetable.***
- ***Chihuahuas are the smallest dog breed.***
- ***Snakes smell through their tongue.***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Sohan: *I pray for a new bicycle.*
Mohan: *Why are you praying so loud? God isn't deaf.*
Sohan: *I know. But my dad is !*

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= **83.33**
1 UK Pound	= **Rs. 103.17**
1 UAE Dirham	= **Rs. 22.69**
1 Euro	= **Rs. 88.87**

VOICE OF THE READER

Multi-pronged approach needed to control pedestrian accidents

Sir,

The significant increase in pedestrian deaths in Bengaluru, rising by 77 percent between 2021 and 2023, from 161 to 286, as reported by the Traffic Department, is alarming. Similarly, in Mysuru, pedestrian deaths rose to 55 in 2010, marking a 50 percent increase compared to 2009. Nationwide statistics indicate that 29,200 pedestrian deaths occurred in 2021, with an additional 60,000 injuries, posing a formidable challenge to authorities.

It is noteworthy that pedestrian deaths in the USA reached 7,500 in 2022, the highest in 41 years. Despite advanced infrastructure and self-regulated electronic controls at pedestrian crossings, human behaviour alongside infrastructure design contributes to such occurrences.

Efforts to mitigate pedestrian fatalities, such as constructing skywalks and pedestrian subways, have limitations and are not always favoured by pedestrians, especially the elderly and those with physical disabilities. Additionally, subways can become hotspots for anti-social activities and their maintenance poses challenges.

Several underlying issues exacerbate pedestrian safety concerns. Firstly, pedestrians often cross roads at undesignated points, disregarding designated crossings. Secondly, footpath encroachments compound the problem. Thirdly, vehicle drivers frequently violate signals and fail to slow down at pedestrian crossings. Poor night-time lighting and the absence of warning signals further contribute to risks.

Addressing these challenges necessitates infrastructure improvements, stringent traffic enforcement and imposing deterrent fines for traffic violations. Public education plays a crucial role, emphasising the importance of rendering aid during accidents to save lives during the critical golden hour, as well as advocating for swift ambulance services. These measures are imperative to address the pressing need for pedestrian safety.

— H.R. Bapu Satyanarayana
Mysuru
8.4.2024

Plea to close ditch covered with weeds

Sir,

A ditch, which has been dug at the corner of the 6th Cross, behind BSNL RTTC building in T.K. Layout, has not been closed for the last many days in spite of complaints.

We don't know who has dug it. Now bushes have grown wildly covering the spot.

It is very dangerous and fatal both for pedestrians, cyclists and all vehicle users. Hence, I request the authorities concerned to close this ditch as soon as possible.

—H.N. Rangaraju
T.K. Layout
31.3.2024

Dufferin Clock Tower battles against neglect

Mysuru, Apr. 22 (BLU&TRR)- The Dufferin Clock Tower, commonly known as 'Chikka Gadiyara,' is a significant historical landmark in Mysuru city, but its allure and importance are waning due to waste dumping and inadequate maintenance.

During the era of the Mysore kingdom, rulers were compelled to maintain favourable relations with British authorities, often resorting to appeasement to secure approvals for development projects benefiting their subjects.

In 1886, Chamaraja Wadiyar extended an invitation to Lord Dufferin, then Viceroy of British India, to visit Mysore. In honour of his visit, a modest Clock Tower was erected and christened "Dufferin Clock Tower."

At that time, clocks were a rarity, prompting Maharaja Chamaraja Wadiyar to construct the Clock Tower to instil a sense of time-keeping among the populace. Adorned with ornate carvings and positioned atop elegant pillars with a fountain below, the Clock Tower was unveiled coinciding with the Viceroy's visit.

Despite efforts by Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) in 2012 to revitalise the area surrounding the Dufferin Clock Tower, including the installation of stone benches, granite steps and electrical lighting, subpar workmanship has tarnished the grandeur of 'Chikka Gadiyara.'

The unsanitary state surrounding Dufferin Clock Tower has become a glaring eyesore despite MCC evacuating street vendors from the spot recently. The fountain below the Clock Tower, once a symbol of regality commissioned by the Maharaja of Mysore, now lies filled with refuse, defacing its elegant construction. Rusted pipes mar the fountain's structure, while stone benches encircling the Clock Tower lay broken and neglected.

Though space was designated for the cultivation of flowering plants, their neglect has led to their withering due to irregular watering. These dismal conditions deter visitors seeking to admire the premises up close.

Concerned citizens are left pondering the state of heritage structures in the Chief Minister's home district, given the neglect evident at the Dufferin Clock Tower. It appears that officials are indifferent to the significance of their duties within the CM's jurisdiction. Even elected representatives turn a blind eye to the civic issues plaguing the area surrounding the Dufferin Clock Tower and other heritage sites.

Will be rejuvenated soon after the election

"Given the current enforcement of the Model Code of Conduct, the initiation of new projects is prohibited. However, immediate attention will be directed towards the upkeep of cleanliness and hygiene in the vicinity of Dufferin Clock Tower. Priority will be accorded to these tasks, with officials receiving explicit directives to commence the work promptly. Additionally, measures will be implemented to evacuate hawkers conducting business in the vicinity."

— Dr. N.N. Madhu, MCC Commissioner

NEWS BRIEFS

Free Urology Camp

City's Suyog Hospital has organised a 6-day (Apr. 22 to 27) free Urology camp at the Hospital premises in Ramakrishnanagar, starting from today (Apr. 22). The patients will be offered 20 percent discount on all tests prescribed by the Doctors during the camp.

Similarly, a free Lungs check-up camp too has been organised in the Hospital from today (Apr. 22) till Apr. 27. Interested can register for the camp over Ph:0821- 2533600 or Mob: 99863-99862.

Ayurveda Eye Care for Children

The Department of PG Studies in Shalakya Tantra, JSS Ayurveda Hospital, Lalithadripura Road, Mysuru, will be coducting a month-long Ayurveda Eye Care summer camp for children from Apr. 22 to May 22 between 9 am to 4.30 pm. [Ph: 0821-2548231 or Mob: 94482-11075]

IPL 2024

TODAY'S MATCH (APRIL 22)

RR Vs **MI**

Sawai Mansingh Stadium, Jaipur — **7.30 pm**

TOMORROW'S MATCH (APRIL 23)

CSK Vs **LSG**

MA Chidambaram Stadium, Chennai – **7.30 pm**

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

PBKS - **142 all out (20)**
LOST TO
GT - 146/7 (19.1 overs)

KKR - **222/6 (20)**
BEAT
RCB - 221 all out (20)

Live Telecast on

Star Sports & JioCinema

[Source: www.iplt20.com]

Neha Hiremath murder case

CM, Home Minister should be sensitive in their remarks

No place for politics in murder, says Women's Commission Chairperson Nagalakshmi Choudhary

Hubballi, Apr. 22- The Karnataka State Women's Commission Chairperson Nagalakshmi Choudhary on Sunday visited the residence of 23-year-old Neha Hiremath who was killed inside her college campus in Hubballi last week and assured justice to her family.

Neha Hiremath

The murder of the daughter of the Congress Councillor of Hubballi-Dharwad Municipal Corporation Niranjan Hiremath on the campus of her college here on Apr. 18 has sparked widespread condemnation and protests.

Offering condolences to her family, she said Neha's death should not be politicised for personal gains and if it was done, then it is like insulting the daughter of this land.

"Neha's murder should not become entangled in caste, religion, or political agendas. When such tragedies occur, the Chief Minister and Home Minister must approach the matter with sensitivity, ensuring their words do not inflict further pain or disrespect upon the victim's family,"

Nagalakshmi Choudhary

Nagalakshmi Choudhary said.

Emphasising that the investigation will leave no stone unturned, she assured that evidence will be gathered as the case progresses, potentially revealing new angles.

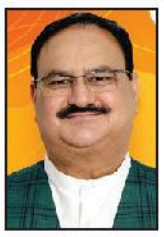
Expressing alarm over the safety of students within educational institutions, Nagalakshmi Choudhary remarked, "Parents rely on educational institutions to safeguard their children. However, recent years have seen a surge in attacks."

"Instructing all Deputy Commissioners to compile comprehensive security reports from educational institutions within 15 days, I have also engaged with the Higher Education Minister. It's imperative to combat such incidents," she underscored. Regarding Neha's murder case, Choudhary advocated for expedited proceedings in a Fast-track Court, urging swift dispensation of justice.

"The perpetrators must face the gallows. This should serve as a stern message. Mere expressions of concern are inadequate; what's crucial is the relentless pursuit of justice. We must stand resolute until justice is served," she asserted.

BJP National President demands CBI probe

Hubballi, Apr. 22- BJP National President J.P. Nadda has called for a CBI investigation into the recent murder of 23-year-old college student Neha Hiremath in Hubballi.



J.P. Nadda

During his visit to Neha Hiremath's residence yesterday, Nadda offered condolences to her family members and pledged BJP's cooperation if the case necessitates CBI intervention to ensure justice for the victim.

"BJP expresses deep sorrow and extends its condolences to the aggrieved family. We assure you that justice will be served," Nadda said. "We condemn the statements made by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and State Home Minister Dr. G. Parameshwara. Their remarks epitomise appeasement. It would influence and dilute the probe" the National BJP Chief added.

If the State Police proves incapable of handling the case, Nadda stated his intention to urge the State Government to transfer the investigation to the CBI.

"The BJP vehemently condemns this heinous act. Our thoughts are with the victim's family during this challenging time, and we are committed to ensuring that they receive the justice they deserve." Stressing the importance of a thorough investigation, Nadda said, "We must delve into the depths of this case. Investigative agencies should take CBI's help".

Yaduveer, GTD hold Road Show

Mysuru, Apr. 22 (PM&VNS)- Mysuru-Kodagu Lok Sabha NDA candidate Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar and JD(S) Core Committee Chairman and MLA G.T. Devegowda (GTD) held an intense campaigning at various places coming under the Chamundeshwari Assembly Constituency here yesterday.

The leaders, who conducted Road Shows, were accorded a traditional welcome with 'Mangalavadya' and showering of flower petals. Both Yaduveer and GTD conducted Road Shows at Udbur, Anagalli, Gopalapura, Jayapura, Daripura, Kellahalli, Taluru, Alanahalli among other locations.

Addressing the voters at Jayapura, Devegowda requested the people to caste their franchise for the Lotus symbol in the ensuing the polls to ensure Yaduveer Wadiyar emerged victorious with a highest margin.

Stating that he had discussed with Yaduveer about the issues related 'Aramane Kaval' lands and khatas to the farmers, GTD requested the villagers not to heed what others discussed but to cast their vote in favour of BJP.

As Prime Minister Narendra Modi himself had selected both Yaduveer Wadiyar from Mysuru-Kodagu LS Constituency and H.D. Kumaraswamy to contest from Mandya LS Constituency, the MLA requested the voters to ensure both the candidates emerged victorious with highest margins.

Speaking on the occasion, Yaduveer, who urged the villagers to vote for him in the ensuing polls, said he was delighted to campaign in Jayapura, which was named after his grandfather.

BJP leader Kaveesh V. Gowda, leaders of both BJP and JD(S) parties took part in the election campaign.

Muslims must shun divisive Congress, vote for PM Modi

Congress will drown in its guarantees, says Minority Wing's former District President Ilyas Ahmed

T. Narasipur, Apr. 22 (BCT)- Amidst claims by the Congress party of a growing distance between minority communities, particularly Muslims and the BJP, former District President of State Minority Wing Ilyas Ahmed has asked Muslims to support the BJP and Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the holistic development of India.

Addressing a press conference in T. Narasipur yesterday, Ahmed criticised the Congress for its long-standing practice of divide-and-rule policy, which he argued, has served to segregate Muslims. He urged the community to reject the Congress and rally behind Modi, citing the Prime Minister's focus on nationwide and inclusive development.

Ahmed highlighted PM Modi's initiation of 142 welfare State programmes over the past decade, which have positively impacted numerous Muslims. He emphasised that these initiatives were not based on caste or religion, contrasting them with what he perceives as the Congress's utilisation of Muslims solely as a voting bloc.

Acknowledging PM Modi's significant achievements, Ahmed pointed to the improved state of the economy and the reduction in prices. He praised the Government's efforts in providing basic amenities such as toilets, gas and electricity to rural areas, noting the substantial progress made in a relatively short period.

Ahmed also critiqued the tendency within the Muslim community to predominantly support candidates from their own ranks and the Congress party. He argued that this approach has hindered the community's development and accused Muslim leaders of exploiting victim-hood narratives during elections to secure votes.

Furthermore, Ahmed urged the Muslim community to embrace Modi's assistance in improving their lives. He criticised Congress and some members of the community for disseminating misinformation about the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) and the National Register of Citizens (NRC).

According to Ahmed, both laws do not pose any threat to Indian Muslims. Instead, they offer citizenship to minorities like Hindus from other countries. He accused the Congress of propagating falsehoods for its selfish gains.

"The Congress in Karnataka will drown in its own guarantees. People expected the Congress to fulfil all promises within 100 days of forming the Government. However, even after one year, the Congress leaders have taken no action on the pledges made to the public before the Lok Sabha elections," he said.

"Implementing the Congress's five guarantees along with other promises, would require lakhs of crores of rupees. Given Karnataka's fiscal deficit and economic crisis, where does Congress plan to obtain the funds to fulfil its promises," he asked.

District BJP Minority Wing Vice-President Nagarle M.D. Ummar, Ziaullah, Irfan Ahmed, Haneef, Mohammad Nemath, Adi Pasha, Farooq Pasha and others were present at the press meet.

Changing Constitution is in BJP's DNA, claims Surjewala

Mysuru, Apr. 22 (MTY&VNS)- AICC General Secretary and Karnataka State In-charge Randeep Singh Surjewala alleged that the BJP's core ideology encompasses a penchant for altering the Constitution, alongside a stance perceived as anti-Dalit, anti-women and anti-farmer.

Speaking to journalists at a private hotel yesterday, Surjewala emphasised the imperative for the public to recognise the BJP's purported aim of securing 400 seats in the Lok Sabha elections with the intention of Constitutional amendments. He alleged that the governance over the past decade had run contrary to Constitutional principles.

Surjewala further criticised Prime Minister Narendra Modi for harbouring a belief in an international conspiracy to thwart his prospects. He noted PM Modi's lack of action in response to statements made by Ananth Kumar Hegde and Arun Goyal advocating Constitutional changes.

Surjewala highlighted the opposition to guarantee schemes by the BJP and the JD(S), negating the benefits accrued by 1.25 crore individuals. "BJP State President B.Y. Vijayendra and JD(S) State President and former CM H.D. Kumaraswamy have been vocal critics of schemes," he remarked, accusing them of misleading the public by suggesting the cessation of these schemes post Lok Sabha elections.

Surjewala claimed that PM Narendra Modi would relinquish his Office following the June 4 election results. He criticised the Central Government for withholding drought relief to Karnataka despite significant losses incurred by farmers and for failing to allocate the State's rightful share as per the 15th Finance Commission.

He accused the Election Commission of India (ECI) of exhibiting bias towards PM Narendra Modi, Surjewala questioned the rationale behind procuring VVPATs when EVMs are deemed functional. He also raised concerns regarding the exorbitant expenditure involved in counting just 5 percent of VVPATs.

Regarding speculation about a leadership change in the State, Surjewala dismissed it as mere conjecture. He clarified that statements made by certain Ministers and MLAs are not reflective of the party's stance but rather their personal opinions.

KPCC Working President and MLA Tanveer Sait, Minister K. Venkatesh, MLA K. Harishgowda, former MLA Dr. Yathindra Siddaramaiah, KPCC Women's Wing President Dr. Pushpa Amarnath, City Congress President R. Murthy, District Congress President Dr. B.J. Vijaykumar, and others were present.

Illegal transportation of liquor

Rs. 5 lakh worth liquor, autorickshaw, two-wheeler seized

Mysuru, Apr. 22 (SBD&KS)- In separate cases, the Excise Vigilance Squad in view of Lok Sabha election, has seized Rs. 5 lakh worth liquor besides seizing a passenger autorickshaw and a two-wheeler used for the illegal transportation.

In the first case, The Excise Vigilance Squad, led by the Department Joint Commissioner F.H. Chalawadi and Deputy Commissioner Nagarajappa, who guided District Vigilance Squad Inspector A.A. Muzavara and staff Gurumallesh, Ajay and Prathap, conducted raids at Lakshmipura, Naganahalli and other places on the outskirts of city yesterday, seized a two-wheeler which was illegally transporting liquor and seized liquor worth Rs. 3 lakh besides registering case against Umesh, Shivakumar, Devaraj, Mahesh and Shivaramu under the Excise Act.

In the second case, the squad guided by Excise Department Deputy Superintendent K. Mohan, conducted a raid at Belavadi Gate and seized liquor worth Rs. 2 lakh besides seizing the passenger autorickshaw used for transporting the liquor.

Sub-Division Inspector Chandrashekar, Sub-Inspector Ranganath and staff Mohan, Rajesh and Ramesh, took part in the raid and seizing operation.

Excise Vigilance Squad members with the seized liquor and two-wheeler along with the person, who was transporting it illegally.

Abracadabra... Abracadabra...

By K.B. Ganapathy

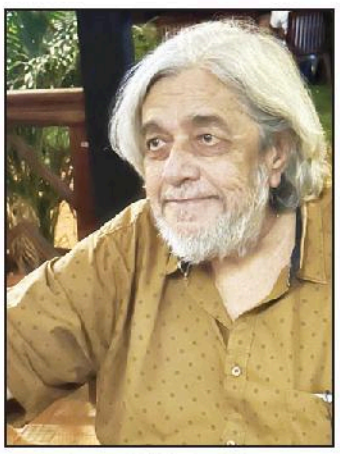
In passing: Saeed Akhtar Mirza

In the midst of electioneering cacophony, I received an invitation from the moving spirit and ever agile Founder-Chairperson of Mysuru Book Clubs-2015 Shubha Sanjay Urs for an evening of conversation and informal interaction with Saeed Akhtar Mirza yesterday morning. I did not know who this celebrity worthy of Shubha's attention was but Shubha was quick to throw in a 'guarantee' at me of a dinner that would follow the event. The invite was like welcome summer's rain for me to give a second thought before accepting. I said yes. It was at the Club House of Mysore Race Course.

Out of curiosity, I asked Shubha about the person whose '*darshan*' I was going to have and also hear the oracle. She simply said, "Uncle, you remember the popular television serial *Nukkad?* He is the Director of that TV serial."

Yes indeed, I could instantly connect to this very interesting filmwallah from Mumbai and his achievements with a National Film Award under his belt. What I did not know, however, was that he is also an author of books, rather queer ones — as I heard of the synopsis of them from his talk. He is branded (and touted) as a pioneer of the 'New Wave' progressive cinema in India. (One may conclude 'left liberal of the Lutyen's Club kind). Other appendices found in his genius are as a writer, traveller and a teacher.

Traveller indeed he is one. After all, the nature of his work would require him to travel. But what left me wondering was



Saeed Akhtar Mirza

that at past 80 years of age he chose to travel by an SUV from Mumbai to Mysuru with one overnight halt at Belagavi. He broke his journey in our city for an overnight stay and the flycatcher of our Mysuru Book Clubs-2015 Shubha succeeded in catching him while on his way to Wayanad in Kerala. I asked him, "Are you on an election survey mission to Rahul Gandhi's Constituency?" "No" was his response and mumbled about attending a meeting connected with films etc.

One of Mirza's well remembered film was '*Albert Pinto Ko Gussa Kyon Aata Hai*'? of 1980. I felt nostalgic to learn that he was a student of the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), Pune, where I used to frequent while in Pune to see the future stars and, of course, the art films by foreign directors like Ingmar Bergman of Sweden who directed 'Seventh Seal' or Vittorio De Sica of Italy who produced the all-time classic 'The Bicycle Thief'.

Be that as it may, Mirza Saab ensconced himself on a chair, walking stick by his side and mike in hand. Introduction, mercifully brief and platitudes over, Saeed (I guess he is always addressed as Saeed) began his monologue that revealed succinctly his films and books across the gamut. He is a soft spoken person. He may be an intellectual and a creative person but he indeed has the demeanour with a persona of a philosopher-poet *(see picture)*.

He mourned the 1984 massacre following Indira Gandhi's assassination. Simultaneously, he alluded to Babri Masjid and its aftermath. The past is the grandfather, the future the grandchild and we witness the passing of an era, he mused kissing into the table-tennis ball of the hand-held microphone. The films are produced like a family tale where facts and fictions are mixed while his books, three of them, are revivalist, he revealed. Then, after a pause, he averred that in the world every civilisation has contributed to the growth of mankind. No one civilisation can claim to be the sole contributor and gave the example of Abbasid civilisation (considered Islamic golden age).

Saeed droned about al-Biruni who wrote and spoke of medieval mathematics, astronomy and astrology of India mentioning the names of Brahmagupta and Aryabhatta of 11th century while reflecting on the past civilisation of mankind. He opined there was much myth-making and also study of science during those bygone days. He said he did not write books as literature, but rather as ideas — whatever it means! Dilating on the theme, he took a jibe at the often heard lament by religious fanatics that their religion is in danger, '*khatre me hai*' and said it is not true.

At the close of his talk he spoke movingly of his intimate, genius of a friend Kundan Shah who is no more. They were together one evening talking about this mundane world and Saeed mentioned of the peace that prevailed around them. Kundan Shah suddenly got up and urged Saeed to move out with him to the balcony. 'Dear Saeed, look at the sky. What do you see? A star-studded beautiful, peaceful sky. Right?'

Saeed said, 'Yes. Indeed.'

'No, my dear friend. It may be beautiful to look at from here and even appear peaceful. But in reality no. There is turbulence, there is motion and there is no peace.'

Well, I could not fathom what Kundan Shah meant when he said that. But I presume that it was about the inner turmoil of an individual that robs him of peace. Apparently the peace Saeed mentioned to Kundan Shah was unreal, *Maya*. Let it be.

This said, Saeed was ready to field questions from the audience that comprised charming, though not so young, ladies. I counted just four men that included yours truly, Saeed of course, Ravi Joshi and Ashvini Ranjan *(see picture)*.

As for Shubha Sanjay Urs, she kept her words. There was indeed a sumptuous dinner washed down with spirit that elevated our mood.

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A group photo of Mysuru Book Clubs-2015 members and invitees with the guest speaker Saeed Akhtar Mirza.

Intensify poll campaigning

Congress MLA instructs booth workers

Mysuru, Apr. 22 (MK&VNS)- Chamaraja MLA K. Harishgowda instructed the Congress party booth-level workers to ensure they visited every household and convinced the people to cast their vote for party candidate M. Lakshmana in the upcoming Lok Sabha election from Mysuru-Kodagu Constituency on Apr. 26.

Addressing a meeting of party leaders and workers, Harishgowda said it was important that the voters were apprised about the guarantee schemes implemented by the Congress State Government along with the guarantees announced by the Congress party at the National level. He also urged the party leaders and workers to strengthen AICC President Mallikarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi at the Centre.

BJP holds 'Maha Samparka Abhiyan'

Mysuru, Apr. 22 (SBD&TRR)- Ahead of the voting day on Apr. 26, the BJP has stepped up its campaign for Mysuru-Kodagu candidate Yaduveer Wadiyar by organising 'Maha Samparka Abhiyan' at N.R. Constituency to ensure the victory of the party candidate. BJP leader and former Mayor Sandesh Swamy flagged off the Maha Samparka campaign yesterday.

Speaking on the occasion, Sandesh Swamy said that there are a total of 280 booths in N.R. Constituency and the BJP workers must ensure that the party polls more votes in all the booths.

"The voters must remember that the Maharaja of Mysore provided houses for the poor and developed slum areas like Jyothinagar, Jalapuri Police Quarters and Gayathripuram. Gayathripuram locality is named after royal family member Gayathri Devi," he said.

Stating that he, as a three-time Corporator and as a Mayor, had worked sincerely for the development of N.R. Constituency, Sandesh Swamy said that the voters had blessed him with more votes when he contested Assembly elections on two occasions.

"When this is the case, how can voters forget the Maharaja of Mysore who developed the beautiful city of Mysuru and worked for the welfare of all sections of the society," he said and expressed confidence that the people of Mysuru city, who have highest love and regards for the royal family, will vote for BJP candidate Yaduveer Wadiyar and elect him as their MP with a big margin.

Summer Effect

- Tender coconut price shoots up to Rs. 50
- Vegetable prices may skyrocket

Vegetables	Old Price	New Price
Tender coconut	Rs. 40 - 45	Rs. 40 - 50
Coconut	Rs. 35 (normal)	Rs. 40 (normal)
Coconut	Rs. 20 (small)	Rs. 25 (small)
Beans (Ooty)	Rs. 70 per kg	Rs. 150 per kg
Beans (Farm)	Rs. 70 per kg	Rs. 140 per kg
Capsicum	Rs. 60 per kg	Rs. 50 per kg
Carrot	Rs. 60 per kg	Rs. 50 per kg
Green Chilli	Rs. 70 per kg	Rs. 80 per kg
Cucumber	Rs. 20 per kg	Rs. 40 per kg
Onion	Rs. 25 per kg	Rs. 20 per kg
Garlic	Rs. 150 per kg	Rs. 180 per kg
Potato	Rs. 35 per kg	Rs. 30 per kg

Mysuru, Apr. 22 (RK&VNS)- The lack of rainfall in Mysuru region has not only affected the farmers but also the common man. People, who have been battling the soaring temperature, are now facing the heat of increase in the prices of few vegetables and tender coconuts.

To the surprise of the common man, the prices of tender coconut, which was being sold at Rs. 40 each, is now costing Rs. 50. Among the vegetables of which the prices have increased are the most commonly used coconuts, beans, garlic, capsicum, green chillies and cucumber. The price of Beans (Ooty) is now Rs. 150 per kg, Beans (Farm) Rs. 140 per kg, earlier they were being sold at Rs. 70 per kg each. Meanwhile, Capsicum is being sold at Rs. 50 per kg, Carrot Rs. 50 per kg, Green Chillies Rs. 80 per kg, Cucumber Rs. 40 per kg, Garlic Rs. 180 per kg and Potato Rs. 35 per kg. However, the prices of Tomato and Onions have remained pocket friendly costing Rs. 20 to Rs. 25 per kg respectively.

Meanwhile, the prices of greens too have witnessed price rise with a bundle of Coriander and Amaranthus (Dantina Soppu) costing Rs. 10 per bundle. It is also expected that the prices of the vegetables might witness a further hike if rains gods do not shower their blessings in the near future.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore*, Manjunath, a coconut merchant at Devaraja Market, said that the prices of coconut had increased because of low yield in the State. "We are importing coconuts from Pollachi in Tamil Nadu and with the high transportation charges involved there is no other option but to increase the prices of the coconuts depending on their size," he said.

Krishnappa, also a coconut merchant, said that the merchants are being charged Rs. 1.50 to Rs. 2 as the transportation charges to get Coconuts from Tamil Nadu.

He added the prices of the coconuts are expected to be high in the months of April, May and June in this part of the region.

Theme-based booths to lure people to vote

(Continued from page 1)

Eight special booths in each segment

These booths are being set up in the Krishnaraja, Chamaraja and Narasimharaja constituencies within the MCC limits. Each Assembly segment will feature five Sakhi booths, where only women staff will be stationed, reflecting the high number of female voters in these areas.

Additionally, one booth will cater specifically to physically challenged voters apart from regular voters, another will be themed and one will be dedicated to youth and sports. In total, each segment will boast eight special booths designed to attract voters.

The Sakhi booth will showcase vibrant paintings portraying the significant contributions of women to both family and nation. Furthermore, the all-women staff at these Sakhi booths will be adorned in purple attire, aimed at drawing the attention of voters.

As for the physically challenged voter booth, it will be equipped with braille ballot papers, ramps, and facilities tailored to the needs of these voters, including wheelchair accessibility.

Dialogue on crucial issues

The theme-based polling booths will underscore the significance of various themes, including environmental conservation, water conservation, promotion of rural sports, agriculture, traditional arts, wildlife protection, and the impact of climate change. Each booth will serve as a platform to raise awareness and encourage dialogue on these important issues.

The polling booth at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan in Chamaraja will centre around the significance of folklore arts and indigenous games. Meanwhile, one of the ethnic polling booths in the Narasimharaja will spotlight women-centric empowerment issues aimed at contributing to national development.

Across Mysuru district

The traditional five ethnic booths will be established at Ranigate in Periyapatna taluk, Nagapura tribal Ashram School in Hunsur taluk, B. Matakere in H.D. Kote taluk, Hullahalli in Nanjangud taluk and Thandavapura in the Varuna assembly segment.

These booths will be adorned with traditional decor, featuring flowers, mango leaves, and coconut leaves, along with other unique elements.

Additionally, the SVEEP committee has arranged eleven theme-based ethnic booths, such as Panchavalli in Periyapatna taluk, aimed at educating women about the importance of consuming nutritious food and emphasising children's safety.

An ethnic booth will be established at Bannikuppe in Hunsur taluk, emphasising the conservation of water and the restoration of groundwater. Meanwhile, the polling booth at Arekerekoppalu Primary School in K.R. Nagar will be adorned to raise awareness among villagers about the impacts of climate change.

The polling booth at Yadahalli Primary School in the Chamundeshwari Assembly segment will showcase various forms of traditional Mysuru arts. On the other hand, the polling booth at Kurubarahalli Government First-Grade College in K.R. Nagar will emphasise the importance of health, sanitation, and hygiene aspects. These efforts seek to celebrate local culture and promote awareness of crucial health-related issues within the community.

Dharna at Gandhi Square seeking CBI investigation

(Continued from page 1)

Addressing the gathering, Vijayendra expressed concern over the rising atrocities against women and girl students, citing a lack of law and order in the State. He highlighted the recent surge in murders, criticising the State Government for its alleged negligence and failure to ensure the safety of women leaving their homes for work.

Vijayendra further flayed the Chief Minister for attributing the murder to a personal issue, yet failing to visit the deceased's family to offer condolences. He questioned whether the State Government was safeguarding the perpetrators and stressed that exploiting the murder issue for political gain was unnecessary, asserting that elections come and go.

State BJP Vice-President M. Rajendra, BJP City President L. Nagendra, Rural President L.R. Mahadevaswamy, MLA T.S. Srivatsa, State BJP Backward Classes Morcha President Raghu Kautilya, Minority Morcha President Dr. Anil Thomas, former Mayor Sandesh Swamy, as well as office-bearers from various BJP Morchas and wings, alongside party workers, were present.

Rangapravesha of S.P. Soundarya

Mysuru, Apr. 22 - The Rangapravesha of S.P. Soundarya, a gifted disciple of Dr. Vasundhara Doraswamy, was held on Apr. 7 at Jaganmohan Palace auditorium in city.

Dr. Dharanidevi Malagatti, Director, Kannada and Culture Department, inaugurated the event by lightning the lamp followed by offering puja to Lord Nataraja, the presiding deity of Dance for the success of Soundarya's Rangapravesha. Dr. Dharanidevi was accompanied by Dr. U.G. Shenoy, Dr. Kripa Phadke, Savitha Ramesh and Dr. Vasundhara Doraswamy.

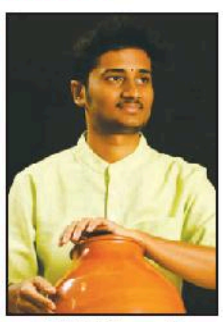
Soundarya commenced her 'Vasundhara Bani' Bharatanatyam with Melaprapti, followed by Shiva Stuti and Guru Vandana. She continued with Adishankaracharya's Ganesha stotra followed by Subramanyakautuam Raga Shankarabharana Khanda chaputala before entering to complicated peace of 'Varna' in Bharatanatyam repertory. She presented Ramayanashabadam in Ragamalika set to Mishra chaputala, where she depicted Sita Swayambavar, Maricha Vada with excellent Abhinaya.

Her varna was a treat to dance rasikas, full of perfect nritta and sublime Abhinaya. The script 'Ghana Shama Sundarana Karathare Sakhi' is set to Ragamalik, Tala Adi. In this, she neatly showcased emotion and longing for her lover Sri Krishna. Her narration of Navarasa — nine moods in Varna was faultless and impressive. She maintained Angashuddhi sancharis and her nritta was also noteworthy followed by striking Jattis by her Guru Dr. Vasundhara Doraswamy.

The second half commenced with Durga Devi composition by Vid. Muthiah Bagavathar set to Nava Rasa, Khanda, Tala Adi; here her forte is pure abhinaya, she continued the abhinaya dominated items Jagadodharana Adisidalu Yashode and concluded her evening with Tillana of Dr. Nagamani Srinath presenting perfect footwork and Abhinaya. The concluding episode in tillana 'Kanakana Kindi' was a masterpiece. On the whole, her performance kept the audience spell-bound.

She was accompanied by Dr. Vasundhara Doraswamy on natuvanga, Vidu. Deepti Srinath on vocal, Vid. Janardhan on mridanga, Vid. Nitesh Ammannaya on flute and Vid. Vinay Rangodhal on rhythm pad. **—Gemini**

Moonlight Music on Apr. 23: Bengaluru Brothers to sing at Suttur Mutt



Vid. M.B. Hariharan and S. Ashok *Vid. Sudheendra* *Vid. Janardhan* *Vid. Shamith*

Mysuru, Apr. 22- The 266th edition of Moonlight Music Concert organised under the aegis of Suttur Mutt will be held at 6 pm on Apr. 23 at Suttur Mutt premises at the foot of Chamundi hill.

The Vocal Duet will be presented by Vidwan M.B. Hariharan and Vidwan S. Ashok, who were called as 'Bengaluru Brothers' by none other than the music stalwart Gaanakalashri Vidwan H.S. Sudheendra.

Vidwan M.B. Hariharan learnt his early music lessons from Vidwan S.N. Srinivas Prasanna, while Vidwan S. Ashok was trained under Vidwans D.S. Srivatsa and K.R. Ramesh and Vidushi Vydehi.

Both are A Grade artistes of Bangalore Akashavani, hold a Mechanical Engineering degree and are M. Music Post-Graduates from Madras University.

The two will be accompanied by Vidwan S. Janardhan on Violin, who began to learn music from the tender age of 7 years.

He learnt violin lessons from Vidushi Anuttama Murali and currently, is tutoring under Padma Shri A. Kanyakumari. He is a B-High grade Akashvani and Doordarshan artiste.

Senior artiste Vidwan H.S. Sudheendra will play mridanga. He learnt his first lessons from his parents H. Srinivasrao and Indira. He has won many awards and prizes including the prestigious Palani Subramanya Pillai prize given by Madras Music Academy, Layakaya, Gaanakala awards and Asthana Vidwan award given by Bengaluru's Shankar Mutt.

Vidwan Shamith S.Gowda will play ghata. A software engineer by profession, he has taken part in 'Spirit of Yuvajanotsava' event organised by Madras Music Academy and has presented many musical concerts.

134th Sri Ramothsava Sangeethothsava-2024

Rich, ringing voice and powerful singing

On the 3rd day of Ramanavami music series at Smt. Alammana Choultry in Srirampet, Mysuru, Vid. Sandeep Narayan gave a vocal concert along with Vid. H.K. Venkatram on violin, Vid. Sai Giridhar on mridanga, Vid. Giridhar Udupa on ghata.

Sandeep is one of the leading vocalists in Karnatak music today. Though born and brought up in the United States, his passion in music and his hard work towards achieving a distinct place in the field has led him to a status that he has earned today. Sandeep imitates his Guru Sanjay Subramanyam not only in his singing but also in mannerisms.

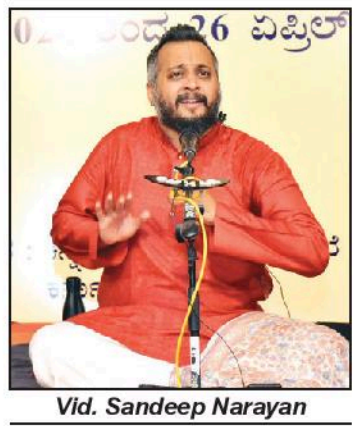
Sandeep has a stunning, resonant voice with a very wide range that can reach far even without the help of a microphone. His breath control that can run to three-four avartas at a stretch is astonishing.

Sandeep began the concert with Tyagaraja's 'RAma ika nannu brova RAda dayalEda' in shahana. The swarakalpana developed for pallavi enhanced the ragabhava.

The concert when began, promised a 3-hour duration with at least two (if not three) ragas to be dealt with in detail. But Kambhoji was the only item sung though leisurely with an unhurried ragalapana, a relaxed 'Evvari mATa' by Tyagaraja with a neraval at 'Bhakta ParAdheenudanuchu' (which the vocalist delighted in stopping at parAdhee' in stead of stopping it as parAdheenu to make it meaningful), a delightful swara array with 'd' as the centre, and of course, allowing taniyavartanam.

The result was — it was hardly 9 pm when an unhasty Taniyavartanam came to an end and Sandeep had to kill the rest of the time with only tukdas.

This could have been avoided had he taken up a sub-main for detailed rendition, which would have also satisfied the listeners.



Vid. Sandeep Narayan

Before the main piece, Sandeep presented two enjoyable compositions sung beautifully — one in Ranjani — 'SrinivAsananghri sEve mAduva banni' by Purandaradasaru set to tune by senior mridangist Srimushnam Raja Rao in Ranjani; and a shloka 'mAtA matpitA rAmabhadrah' in ragamalika in Hindola, Hameer Kalyani, Bhairavi, purvikalyani leading to 'O RAma ninnAmam Emi ruchirA' of Madurai Somu fame.

The post tani part included a number of compositions — 'Bajare SriRAmam he mAnasa' by Bhadrachala Ramadasa in Vakulabharana, Purandaradasaru's popular 'RAma RAma RAma ennirO' in Tilang, a Meera bhajan 'PAyOji maine Ram rattan,' a Marathi abhang 'Abhi raghulal udalitaranga', 'Shiva Shiva endomme shivanAgi' by Siddha Rameshwara and lastly 'RAmanai bhjittAl' in Maand, the album of which was recently released by the vocalist.

While singing the concluding part, Sandeep stopped to ask 'if the audience were sleeping' as he expected them to join him to 'sing and dance along.'

He was warmly applauded by an enthusiastic audience, who joined voices with him in the last song.

Senior violinist H.K. Venkatram's version of Kambhoji was excellent and the percussionists Sai Giridhar and Giridhar Udupa (ghata) made their presence impactful throughout the concert and also in the taniyavartanam. **—Dr. Padmavathi Narasimhan**

Vid. Sandeep Narayan presenting a Classical Music Concert at Smt. Alammana Choultry, Kunchitigara Sangha, Srirampet, on Apr. 19 as part of 134th Sri Ramothsava Sangeethothsava-2024 organised by Sri Ramabhyudhaya Sabha Public Charitable Trust, Mysuru. He is accompanied by Vid. Sai Giridhar on mridanga, Vid. Giridhar Udupa on ghata and Vid. H.K. Venkatram on violin. Venkatram was honoured on the occasion on his receiving Sangeet Natak Academy Award this year.

Voter holds key to a successful Democracy

Mysuru, Apr. 22 (BS)- Democracy stands as the cornerstone of modern governance systems, with India recognised as one of the largest and most successful democracies, despite encountering challenges in the post-independence period.

The essence of this success lies in the unwavering faith of the people, with voters playing a pivotal role in the democratic process. Through periodic reforms and awakening, the effective administration of democracy remains achievable.

In view of the upcoming elections to Lok Sabha-2024, *Star of Mysore* spoke to some religious leaders, who have shared their perspectives on the importance of voting and the practice of a successful democracy.

Do not yield to allurements

"Voting is universally regarded as a sacred right, and its sanctity must remain untarnished. Citizens should resist any temptations, such as those stemming from caste affiliations or monetary inducements, that may compromise this sacred process. India, the world's second-largest democratic nation, achieved independence in 1947.

The Constitution, meticulously crafted by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, and adopted in 1950, enshrines fundamental rights and duties. Every individual, upon reaching the age of 18, is bestowed with the privilege to exercise their franchise. Voting is synonymous with 'expressing opinion', and through it, decisions are made regarding the leadership of the country for the next five years.

The essence of democracy thrives on the election of deserving candidates. Therefore, on election day (Friday, Apr. 26), every citizen should cherish the freedom to democratically elect the individual they believe will best serve the nation's interests. It should be viewed as the purest form of national service, and every eligible voter should fulfil this duty without fail.

—Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Swamiji, Suttur Mutt Seer

It's time to exercise our franchise

"Once again, the time has arrived for us to exercise our civil rights through voting in the elections. We must seize this opportunity and make voting a compulsory duty. It is only when we fulfil our responsibilities that our civil rights hold value. By voting consistently, we contribute to steering the country in the right direction.

To facilitate the voting process, the Election Commission has introduced the 'home voting' facility for senior citizens. Additionally, polling booths have been strategically located nearby, eliminating the need for lengthy journeys to cast our votes.

Regardless of our location, I am committed to voting within the stipulated time and urge others to do the same. Let us endorse this civic duty without fail, ensuring our collective voice is heard in shaping the future of our nation.

— Sri Ganapathy Sachchidananda Swamiji, Avadhoota Datta Peetham

Selling votes akin to child trafficking

"It is paramount that nobody succumbs to inducements during elections. Selling our votes equates to a betrayal of our democratic principles and can be likened to a form of trafficking, particularly akin to child trafficking. Voters must approach their civic duty with utmost seriousness.

Voting serves as a crucial tool in safeguarding the social and collective interests of the nation. The democratic government, guided by the principle 'Of The People, By The People, and For The People', is established through the act of voting.

Every voter holds the responsibility of upholding the value of their right, as it is through the exercise of franchise that the pillars of our system — Legislative, Executive, and Judiciary — take shape.

Significant changes within the country and its systems can only occur through voting, which should be regarded as a potent weapon of democracy, laying a sturdy foundation for the nation's progress. As advocated by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, Indians should vote to cultivate lives filled with self-respect and pride.

Voting is not just a right; it is the 'ultimate right' enshrined in the Constitution. Therefore, we must remain vigilant against falling into traps based on caste, religion, colour or class. Every citizen who upholds secular principles should view voting as a compulsory duty for securing the prosperous future of our country.

— Sri Jnana Prakash Swamiji, Urilinga Peddi Mutt

Be a part of festival of democracy

"On the day of voting, it's crucial to prioritise our civic duty over leisure activities like touring or going to the cinema. Regardless of our commitments, we must ensure to vote without fail and actively participate in the festival of democracy that occurs once every five years.

Voting isn't merely a right bestowed upon us; it's also a solemn duty that we owe to our nation. It's imperative that we fulfil this responsibility through our participation in the electoral process.

While I refrain from endorsing any particular candidate, I urge everyone not to abstain from voting. With compulsory voting, we can collectively contribute to forming a better government and electing more capable candidates.

It's essential to recognise the value of our vote and resist the temptation to sell it for personal gain. Let us elect candidates based on their merits, irrespective of their religion, caste, or class affiliations. By doing so, we can ensure a more inclusive and equitable representation in our governance structures.

— Hazrath Maulana Mohammed Usman Shariff, Sir Khazi of Mysuru

Let's shape a brighter tomorrow

"As the general elections draw near in our country, let's remind ourselves of the immense power we hold in our hands — the power to shape the future of our nation and to give the right direction to our motherland — based on the Constitutional values aimed at the prosperity and happiness of each citizen.

Our vote isn't just a press on machine; it's a voice that echoes the hopes and dreams of millions. This is our opportunity to elect leaders who will lead with integrity and vision; they will be the architects of policies that impact every aspect of our lives — from education to healthcare, infrastructure to economy.

Voting is not just a right; it's a responsibility, a privilege earned through the sacrifices of many. Every vote counts, and every voice matters. By exercising our franchise, we honour those who fought for our democratic rights and ensure a government that truly represents the will of the people.

Let's stand together, let's make our voices heard, and let's shape a brighter tomorrow for India.

Remaining silent spectators is dangerous for democracy; let's become active participants in shaping our collective destiny. Let us unite in our resolve, let us amplify our voices, and let us forge a path toward a brighter and more prosperous future for India.

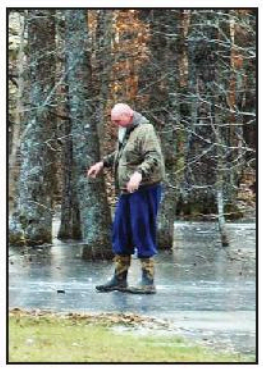
Amidst a huge financial commitment, extensive logistical arrangements, humongous administrative task and dedicated efforts of thousands for a fair and smooth electoral process, voting emerges as our moment to wield influence.

The polling stations await our conscientious choices. Let our vote make a significant difference as every vote counts. It is our sacred duty.

—Rev. Fr. Vijay Kumar, Secretary, Mysore Diocesan Educational Society

WORD OF THE DAY

Gingerly



Pronunciation: JIN-jer-lee (Adjective)
Meaning: An act or manner described as gingerly is very cautious or careful.
Origin: Though more common as an adverb meaning "very cautiously and carefully," as in "moving gingerly across the icy pond," gingerly has for more than four centuries functioned both as an adverb and as an adjective. Etymologists take a gingerly approach to assigning any particular origins to gingerly. While it might have come from the name of the spice, there's nothing concrete to back up that idea. Another theory is that it's related to an Old French word, gençor, meaning "prettier" or "more beautiful," with evidence being that in 16th century English an earlier sense of gingerly often described dancing or walking done with dainty steps. It wasn't until the 17th century that gingerly was applied to movements done with caution in order to avoid being noisy or causing injury, and to a wary manner in handling or presenting ideas.
Example: "Note: bears do not in a gingerly manner put their paws against each stem of a lovely ripe pear and gently pull upward against the branch, the proper harvesting method. 'Picked' in bear-lingo means tearing down carefully constructed tree cages and knocking as many branches to the ground as needed; then taking several bites out of each luscious pear, leaving scattered remnants all over the ground ..." — Cate Gable, The Chinook Observer (Long Beach, Washington), 14 Oct. 2020

THE ODD WORD

Ill-willie

Having an unfriendly disposition.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Spine tingling

Meaning: The phrase 'Spine tingling' is used in a moment when you feel frightened and excited at the same time.
Origin: This phrase is believed to have originated from action movies in the early the 80s.
Example: "Seeing my son take that dive in the pool was one of those spine-tingling moments."

QUOTE BOX

Perfection is the child of time.—**Joseph Hal**

RIDDLE THIS

What is so fragile that saying its name breaks it?

Answer: Silence.

CROSS WORD

ACROSS:

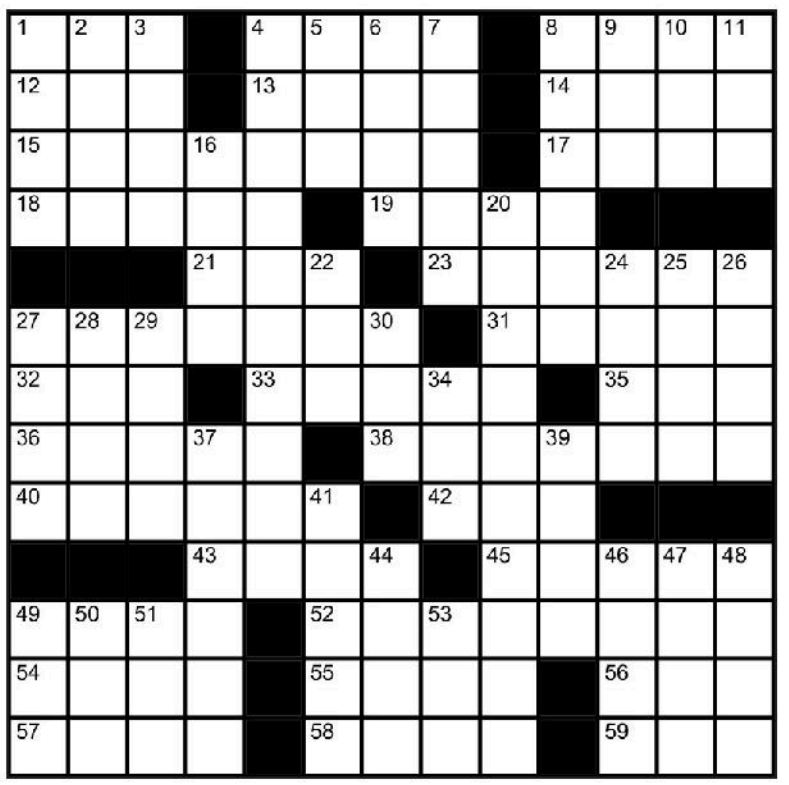
1 Mormons gp.
4 Young lions
8 Mineral spring resorts
12 An East Indian shrub
13 Exclude
14 Field yield
15 Lie inactive
17 Sacred or pious
18 Devastation
19 Faction
21 Brewed liquor
23 A rain-cloud; a hale
27 Unsettle
31 Take ___ of one's senses : go mad?
32 Pretoria locale
33 Slobber
35 A unit length used to ascertain linear the density of yarns
36 Name in violins
38 Unfathomable, bottomless
40 A sheep of Spanish breed famous for its wool
42 Tokyo, once - "doe" anagram?
43 ___ on : incites
45 Collectively (2,3)
49 Bit used in dentistry
52 Consecrated, sacred or pure
54 Italian noble family
55 Russian sea
56 Gad's son?
57 ____ beat : exhausted?
58 Oodles
59 Dept. of Telecommunication

DOWN

1 ___ out : hit or speak out angrily?
2 Information
3 European - "Val's" changed ?
4 Finishing, completing or bringing to an end
5 Actress Thurman
6 Blown to ___ : razed completely?
7 Large earthenware mug especially for beer
8 Ploy or ruse
9 Expert
10 America Online, abbr.
11 He may be in disguise and use a false name
16 Billy, or nanny
20 Waste time? (5,5)
22 Be mistaken
24 Soothing ointment
25 Eye part
26 Set one's ___ to : authorize or confirm?
27 Small measure of spirits
28 Indian Soc. of Mechanical Engineers
29 European river
30 Constricting snake
34 Brit. award
37 Arranged in layers
39 Only fair (2-2)
41 Ancient Irish writing carved in stones
44 Poet Teasdale
46 Was in debt
47 Fiddling emperor
48 Revise copy
49 Couch or cot
50 Application
51 Reqd Time of Arr.
53 Local Area Network, abbr.

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

T	O	A	D		E	R	A	T		A	T	O
A	B	L	E		R	I	T	E		D	U	B
D	I	F	F	E	R	E	N	T	I	A	T	E
A	T	S	E	A		L	O	R	D			
			C	S	A			A	L	O	F	T
	E	N	T	E	R	E	D		E	N	O	S
A	D	O		L	I	V	I	D		C	O	O
K	I	E	V		A	E	R	A	T	E	D	
A	T	L	A	S			E	N	A			
			P	A	S	S		T	I	F	F	S
U	P	W	I	T	H	T	H	E	L	A	R	K
P	O	I		A	I	A	A		E	R	E	I
S	E	T		N	A	B	S		D	E	F	M



SUDOKU

1		7				5		2
							3	
4			9		8	1		
	7			8	2	6		
		1	4	3			2	
		8	2		9			7
	6							
7		9				4		1

Answer to previous puzzle

2	9	3	6	1	8	7	5	4
4	7	8	2	3	5	1	9	6
6	5	1	4	9	7	3	8	2
3	2	5	1	7	4	9	6	8
1	8	6	5	2	9	4	3	7
7	4	9	3	8	6	2	1	5
5	3	4	9	6	2	8	7	1
8	1	2	7	5	3	6	4	9
9	6	7	8	4	1	5	2	3

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

AO WIL'CZ YIX FIYOLRZB, WIL'CZ YIX

MEWAYD EXXZYXAIY.

TODAY'S CLUE: W EQUALS Y

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: It is an ironic habit of human beings to run faster when we have lost our way.

MOVIE LOVERS

NOW SHOWING - SINGLE SCREEN THEATRES

- **Gayathri Theatre** — Ph: 2443568
  O2 -2024 (K) - 4 Shows
- **Woodlands Theatre** — Ph: 2422871
  Yuva (K) - 4 Shows
- **Mahadeshwara Theatre** — Mob: 99008-20093
  Rathna (K) - 4 Shows
- **Lido Theatre** — Ph: 2420885
  Chirate Bantu Chirate (K) - 4 Shows
- **Sangam Theatre** — Ph: 2520494
  Avatara Purusha 2 (K) - 2 Shows; *Maidaan (H)* - 2 Shows
- **Prabha Theatre** — Mob: 98454-14691
  Rathna (K) - 2 Shows; *Luv You Shankara (K)* - 2 shows
- **Padma Theatre** — Ph: 2521923
  Magadheera (Te)
- **Rajkamal Theatre** — Ph: 2423554
  Rooban (Ta) - 4 Shows
- **Thibbadevi Theatre** — Ph: 2452958
  Leo (Ta) - 4 Shows

DRC CINEMAS — Ph: 4240422, 4241800

Kung Fu Panda 4 (E-3D)	(S-1) 11.40 am
Godzilla X Kong: New Empire (E-3D)	(S-1) 1.45 pm
Dasavarenya Sri Vijayadasaru (K)	(S-1) 4.10 pm
Aavesham (Ma)	(S-1) 7 pm, 10.05 pm
Jai Ganesh (Ma)	(S-2) 10.50 am, 10.10 pm
O2 (K)	(S-2) 1.20 pm
Maidaan (H)	(S-2) 1.20 pm
Varshangalkku Shesham (Ma)	(S-2) 7 pm
Avatara Purusha 2 (K)	(S-3) 10.45 am
Bade Miyan Chote Miyan (H-2D)	(S-3) 1.10 pm
Yuva (K)	(S-3) 4.15 pm, 7.10 pm, 10.05 pm
Do Aur Do Pyaar (H)	(S-4) 10.55 am, 4.30 pm, 7.15 pm, 9.55 pm
Manjummel Boys (Ma)	(S-4) 1.45 pm

MYSURU VISION CINEMAS — Ph: 0821 - 2973519

Matinee (K)	: 1.15 pm, 4.15 pm
Godzilla X Kong: New Empire (E-3D)	: 1.30 pm, 7.15 pm
Yuva (K)	: 1.30 pm, 4.30 pm, 7.45 pm
Maidaan (H)	: 4 pm, 7.30 pm
Naalkane Aayama (K)	: 7.05 pm

PVR CINEMAS — 4K Dolby 7.1

Nexus Centre City Mall, 2nd Floor. Mob: 8951357139

Yuva (K)	: 4.20 pm, 10.15 pm
Love Sex Aur Dhokha (H)	: 10.55 am, 3.20 pm
Civil War (E-2D)	: 11.30 am, 2 pm, 4.10 pm, 7.30 pm, 9.40 pm
Bade Miyan Chote Miyan (H)	: 11.35 am, 6.45 pm
Do Aur Do Pyaar (H)	: 12.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 10pm
The Legacy of Jineshwar (H)	: 12.55 pm
Crew (H)	: 1.25 pm, 9.10 pm
Godzilla X Kong: New Empire (E-3D)	: 1.40 pm, 7.35 pm
Maidaan (H)	: 3 pm, 10.10 pm
Naalkane Aayama (K)	: 4.10 pm
Varshangalkku Shesham (Ma)	: 6.05 pm
O2 (K)	: 6.40 pm
Aavesham (Ma)	: 9.30 pm

1st Floor, Garuda Mall. Mob: 9901373210

Maidaan (H)	: 11.25 am, 6.35 pm
Yuva (K)	: 11.50 am, 5.45 pm, 8.30 pm
Trailers Screening Show	: 2.34 pm
Rathna (K)	: 3 pm
Godzilla X Kong: New Empire (E-3D)	: 3.05 pm, 9 pm
Bade Miyan Chote Miyan (H)	: 3.10 pm, 10.20 pm
Naalkane Aayama (K)	: 6 pm
Jai Ganesh (Ma)	: 6.30 pm, 9.15 pm

Voter Guide on EVMs, VVPATs distributed

Concerned over the drop in overall voter turnout in the first phase of Lok Sabha elections this year as compared to 2019, the Election Commission is making strategies to boost voter turnout. As part of its efforts, officers, under Systematic Voter Education and Electoral Participation Program (SVEEP), are heading a campaign to distribute a 'Voter Guide' individually to all houses in all the 11 Assembly Constituencies. The Guide contains detailed information about Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) and Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT). In Mysuru, the initiative is being led by ZP CEO K.M. Gayathri, who is also the Chairman of the Mysuru SVEEP Committee. State SVEEP Nodal Officer P.S. Vastrad also joined the initiative.

EVENTS TODAY (APRIL 22)

- **Sri Rama Seva Mandali, Vidyaranyapuram:** 71st annual Sri Ramothsava, devotional songs by Vidu. Shruthi Narasimha Bode, Yellapura, accompanied by Vid. Sathish Bhat Heggar on harmonium and Vid. Vijeth Heggade on tabla, Sri Avani Shankara Mutt, 4th Cross, Vidyaranyapuram, **6.30 pm.**
- **Ganavisharadha Sri Bidaram Krishnappa's Sri Prasanna Seetharama Mandira:** 108th Ramanavami Annual Heritage Music Festival, vocal recital by Vid. Abhishek Raghuram, accompanied by Vid. Mysore Karthik Nagaraj on violin, Vid. Anantha R. Krishnan on mridanga and Vid. Suresh Vaidyanathan on ghata, Mandira premises, Narayana Shastry Road, **6.30 pm.**
- **Sri Ramabhyudhaya Sabha Public Charitable Trust, Mysuru:** 134th Sri Ramothsava Sangeethothsava-2024 of Sri Krodhinama Samvatsara, classical music by Vid. Saketharaman, accompanied by Vid. Nishanth Chandar on violin, Vid. Arjun Kumar on mridanga and Vid. G.S. Ramanujam on ghata, Smt. Alammana Choultry, Kunchitigara Sangha, Srirampet, **6.30 pm to 9.30 pm.**
- **NaMo Brigade:** NaMo Bharat programme, noted orator Chakravarty Sulibele main speaker, Rangamandira, Dasara Exhibition Grounds, **6.30 pm.** [Mob: 97431-53156 or 99025-95318]

EVENTS TOMORROW (APRIL 23)

- **Sri Rama Seva Mandali, Vidyaranyapuram:** 71st annual Sri Ramothsava, flute recital by Vid. L.V. Mukund, Bengaluru, accompanied by Vid. Venkatesh Josyar on violin, Vid. G.S. Nagaraj on mridanga and Vid. R. Narasimhan ghata, Sri Avani Shankara Mutt, 4th Cross, Vidyaranyapuram, **6.30 pm.**
- **Ganavisharadha Sri Bidaram Krishnappa's Sri Prasanna Seetharama Mandira:** 108th Ramanavami Annual Heritage Music Festival, Veena-Violin Duet Concert by Vidu. Dr. S.V. Sahana and Vid. A.P. Srinivas, accompanied by Vid. Yalla Venkateshwara Rao on mridanga and Vid. Trichy S. Krishnaswamy on ghata, Mandira premises, Narayana Shastry Road, **6.30 pm.**
- **Sri Ramabhyudhaya Sabha Public Charitable Trust, Mysuru:** 134th Sri Ramothsava Sangeethothsava-2024 of Sri Krodhinama Samvatsara, flute recital by Vid. J.B. Shruthi Sagar, accompanied by Vid. Karthik Nagaraj on violin, Vid. Ananth R. Krishna on mridanga and Vid. Guruprasanna on ghata, Smt. Alammana Choultry, Kunchitigara Sangha, Srirampet, **6.30 pm to 9.30 pm.**

INOX LIVE the MOVIE

Mall of Mysore - Mob: 7829999465

Maidaan (H)	(S-2)	2.10 pm
	(S-4)	11.25 am, 9.50 pm
Bade Miyaan Chote Miyaan (H)	(S-2)	10.45 am, 5.55 pm
	(S-3)	10.10 pm
Yuva (K)	(S-1)	1 pm, 4.15 pm
	(S-3)	10.10 am
	(S-4)	6.35 pm
Manjummel Boys (Ma)	(S-2)	9.20 pm
Godzilla X Kong: New Empire (E-3D)	(S-1)	10.25 am, 10.00 pm
Aavesham (Ma)	(S-3)	6.50 pm
Varshangalkku Shesham (Ma)	(S-4)	3.10 pm
Parijatha Parvam (Te)	(S-3)	3.55 pm
O2 (K)	(S-1)	7.30 pm
	(S-3)	1.25 pm

INOX Centro Mysore - Mob: 9606976757

Partner (K)	: 11.05 am
Maidaan (H)	: 11.10 am, 6.15 pm
Yuva (K)	: 11.35 am, 6.15 pm
Bade Miyan Chote Miyan (H)	: 12.05 pm, 2.50 pm, 9.30 pm
Naalkane Aayama (K)	: 1.55 pm
Aavesham (Ma)	: 2.55 pm, 6 pm, 10.20 pm
O2 (K)	: 3.30 pm
Rathna (K)	: 4.25 pm
Manjummel Boys (Ma)	: 7.25 pm, 10 pm
Jai Ganesh (Ma)	: 9.20 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there are no minimum audience of 15.

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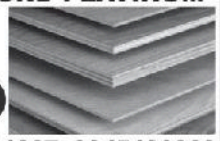
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Printed by T.S. Gopinath and published by M. Govinde Gowda on behalf of Academy Newspapers Private Limited at Academy Newspapers Private Limited, 15-C, Industrial 'A' Layout, Bannimantap, Mysuru-570 015. Editor: M. Govinde Gowda. Phone: 2496520 / 2496521 / 2496522 / 2496523 / 2496526 / 2496527 / 2496528. City offices: Visveshwaraya Building, III Floor, K.R. CIRCLE, Mysuru-570 001, Phone : 2431774 and No. 114, D.Devaraj Urs Road, Mysuru-570 001, Phone : 2428695, E-mail address: voice@starofmysore.com, For Advertisements: ad@starofmysore.com, RNI Reg. No. 29894/78.